



CALGARY

Weekly Newscasts Lesson Plan

November 23, 2015

Newscasts are current news stories read at a slower pace than you might hear on the radio. These are prepared by CBC news editor Natasha Frakes.

Objectives:

- To develop listening skills
- To increase vocabulary
- To increase awareness of grammatical structures and functional language
- To increase knowledge of current events
- To provide a user-friendly, self-study tool for learners, as well as an ESL classroom resource for instructors

Contents:

Three news stories are featured in each weekly lesson plan. Each lesson contains vocabulary and listening comprehension activities. At the end of each lesson, you will find a complete transcript and an answer key. This lesson plan is aimed towards learners at an intermediate language level (i.e. Canadian Language Benchmarks 4-5 or equivalent).



Learning English with CBC is a joint project with CBC Calgary, CBC Edmonton, and the Government of Alberta.
Lesson Plan prepared by Deidre Lake, Communication4Integration Inc.

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NEWSCAST 1: CALGARY CHARTER ENERJET OFFERS TO FLY SYRIAN REFUGEES TO CANADA



Photo Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/enerjet-airline-syrian-refugees-1.3322927>

WARM UP What do you know about the Canadian government's plan to bring Syrian refugees to Canada? Do you think it can be done by the end of the year? Why or why not?

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 1

Instructions: Look at the following words. Circle the words you do not know.

charter airline layoffs sector on hand long history services in need

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 2

Instructions: Match the words above with the correct definition below.

WORD	DEFINITION
	present/available for a special purpose
	helping or doing work for someone
	usually temporary release/dismissal of workers
	business that rents out a whole aircraft, but does not sell individual seats
	part of the economy with the same kind of companies
	has happened many times in the past
	not having basic supplies to live a safe and happy life
	An executive/manager/supervisor responsible for the commercial/money-making success of the organization

(See answer key)

LISTENING ACTIVITY 1

Instructions: Listen to Newscast 1 for overall comprehension. Use the following questions to help you:

1. What is Enerjet? _____
2. Who has Enerjet offered to help? _____
3. What can Enerjet help to do? _____
4. Why does Enerjet have airplanes available? _____
5. What is Darcy Morgan's job? _____

How many of the questions were you able to answer? Circle your response:

None Some Most All

Listen to the newscast again if you were unable to answer all of the questions.

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2

Instructions: Listen to Newscast 1 again and fill in the blanks with the words that you hear.

Enerjet, a Calgary _____ airline, says it can help the federal government to bring 25,000 Syrian refugees to Canada by the end of the year.

With the _____ in Alberta's oil and gas sector, Enerjet has more planes _____ , and is offering its _____ for free to Immigration Canada to fly some of the Syrian refugees from Europe to Canada.

Darcy Morgan, the chief _____ officer of Enerjet, says "Canada has a _____ in helping others _____ and ... Calgarians, are a big part of that."
(See answer key)

SPEAKING ACTIVITY 1

With a colleague or a friend, discuss the following questions:

Air Canada has also offered to help to transport Syrian refugees to Canada. Can you think of other companies and industries that could help?

How would you persuade these industries to offer their services? If you are in a classroom, share your answer with a partner or group. If you are working online, start a discussion with a friend or family member about this topic.

NEWSCAST 2: PARIS ATTACKS HAVE ALBERTANS AMAZED AT FRENCH RESILIENCY



Photo Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/paris-attacks-alberta-tourists-hatfield-french-scott-1.3321266>

WARM UP

How did you feel when you heard about the attacks on Paris? Do you think Canada is safe from these kinds of attacks?

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 1

Instructions: Look at the words and phrases in the box below. Write the definition of the terms you understand.

TERM	DEFINITION
amazed	
resiliency	
cut short	
wake of	
compassion	
unity	
thankful	

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 2

Instructions: Now look at the words and phrases that have the same or similar meanings to the words you have defined. Fill in the missing definitions in the box above if you can. Consider any changes to your definitions.

TERM	SYNONYMS
amazed	surprised/shocked
resiliency	strength/spirit/ toughness
cut short	stop/interrupt/discontinue
wake of	following/as a result of
compassion	care/sympathy/concern
unity	harmony/togetherness/closeness
thankful	happy /relieved/ grateful

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 3

Instructions: Without looking at the vocabulary words and phrases again, match the words and phrases you can remember with the definitions in the box below. If necessary, scroll down, or turn your paper over to avoid looking.

TERM	DEFINITION
	pity for the sufferings or misfortunes of others
	expressing gratitude and relief
	make something known by giving evidence
	to end abruptly
	being joined as a whole
	to show or cause astonishment
	the ability to recover quickly from difficulties
	happens after and often because of an event

(See answer key)

LISTENING ACTIVITY 1

Instructions: Listen to Newscast 2 for overall comprehension. After listening, circle the definition that best describes this newscast for you:

- a) This newscast was very difficult to understand after listening one time.
- b) This newscast was difficult to understand after listening one time.
- c) This newscast was easy to understand after listening one time.
- d) This newscast was very easy to understand after listening one time.

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2

Instructions: Listen to Newscast 2 again. Put a checkmark in the box next to what is said by each person.

An example is done for you.

Jenica Hatfield	Anastasia French-Scott	
		The experience makes her thankful to live in Canada
		Terrorism brought all these people together
✓	✓	They won't cut their trip short
		Parisians are coming together
		We are very, very lucky to live in Canada
		The love and unity in Paris are really strong
		We're so safe

(See answer key)

LISTENING ACTIVITY 3

Instructions: Listen to Newscast 2 again and fill in the blanks with the word that you hear.

Two young Alberta women travelling in Paris say they are _____ at the _____ of the French people. Jenica Hatfield and Anastasia French-Scott have no plans to _____ their Paris trip _____ in the _____ the deadly attacks in that city.

In an interview to CBC at Place de la Republique, Hatfield said Parisians are coming together in a _____ unity. She added that, "... there may have been terrorism that brought all these people together, but the love and _____ and the _____ here is really strong."

Scott-French said the experience makes her _____ to live in Canada.

"We are very, very lucky that we don't have any terrorism, really,... and that we're so safe," she said.

(See answer key)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Do you think that there is a need to take extra precautions/safety measures in the wake of the Paris attacks? If so, what do you recommend that people do every day to make sure they are safe? If not, do you agree with Anastasia that we are safe? If so, why?

NEWSCAST 3: JUSTIN TRUDEAU GETS ROCK STAR WELCOME AT G20



Photo Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/world/g20-turkey-trudeau-1.3319803>

WARM UP

Can you find Justin Trudeau in the picture? How do you feel about the image he portrays/shows of Canada?

VOCABULARY: CREATING AWARENESS

There are two acronyms/abbreviations in the story:

G20 and APEC

G20 (Group of 20) refers to an International Meeting of 19 countries, and the European Union, which is represented by The European Central Bank.

APEC is the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation to promote/support free trade. 21 Pacific Rim countries are members of APEC.

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 1

There are also two slang terms in the newscast:

Selfie and hottie.

How would you define **selfie**? _____

A **hottie** is a physically attractive person.

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 2

Instructions: Study the definitions of the following words/expressions.

WORD/EXPRESSION	DEFINITION
debut	perform in public for the first time
summit	a meeting between heads of government
reaffirm	state again strongly
pledge	a firm promise or task
impact	have a strong effect on someone or something
withdraw	remove or take away from a place
profoundly	very strongly felt
executives	senior manager in a business organization
to be there for	be available to provide support or comfort for
time to come	The near or foreseeable future

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 2

Instructions: Match the words from the left of the table above with their synonyms below.

WORD/EXPRESSION	SYNONYMS
	over the next days, weeks, etc./hereafter
	remove/leave
	effect/ influence
	being responsive/helpful to
	promise/vow
	managers/directors
	introduction/ first appearance
	conference/meeting
	repeat/ confirm
	very much/deeply

LISTENING ACTIVITY 1

Instructions: Listen to Newscast 3 for overall comprehension. Use the following questions to help you.

1. Where was the G20 summit held? _____
2. What day did Trudeau deliver his message? _____
3. How did Trudeau say Canadians define themselves? _____
4. Will the Paris attacks affect the plans to bring Syrian refugees to Canada? _____
5. What else will the Paris attacks not affect? _____
6. Who else did Trudeau greet at the summit? _____
7. What did the business executives ask Trudeau for? _____
8. Where is the APEC summit being held? _____
9. How did the Manila papers describe Trudeau? _____

How many of the questions were you able to answer? Circle your response:

None Some Most All

Listen to the newscast again if you were unable to answer all of the questions.
(See answer key)

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2

Listen to Newscast 3 again. Take notes so that you can summarize what you've heard.

SPEAKING ACTIVITY 1

Summarize what you've heard. If you are in a class, work with a partner. Take turns to summarize the newscast. If you are doing this lesson independently, record yourself summarizing the story and play it back.

After summarizing the story, how much of the newscast did you understand?

Some Most All

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Do you think that having a Prime Minister who is regarded as a rock star and a hottie give Canada a good or bad reputation? What would you like the world to know about your Prime Minister?

Language Focus: Introduction to Reported Speech

In all of our newscasts this week, we heard people directly quoted—exactly what they said word for word—this is called direct speech. Reporters also told us “indirectly” what the speakers had said. This is called reported or indirect speech.

See the example below:



Notice that in reported speech, when talking about something already said, the reporting verb “say” becomes a past verb “said”, and the verb the speakers used “have” becomes the past verb “had”. “That” is often used after the reporting verb.

LANGUAGE FOCUS: ACTIVITY 1

Instructions: Look at the table below to see how spoken verb tenses are changed in reported speech.

Tense	Direct Speech	Reported Speech
present simple	“France is at war.”	He said (that) France was at war.
present continuous	Enerjet is offering its planes for free.	He said (that) Enerjet was offering its planes for free.
past simple	“Parisians came together.”	She said (that) Parisians had come together.
past continuous	Enerjet <u>was flying</u> people to and from the oilfields before the layoffs.”	He said (that) Enerjet <u>had been flying</u> people to and from the oilfields...
present perfect	“The government <u>hasn’t decided</u> how to settle the refugees yet.”	She said (that) The government <u>hadn’t decided</u> how to settle the refugees yet.
past perfect* does not change	“Canada <u>had taken in</u> large groups of refugees from many countries until recently.”	He said (that) Canada <u>had taken in</u> large groups of refugees from many countries until recently.

Modal Verbs		
will	We <u>will bring</u> 25,000 refugees to Canada by the end of the year.	He said (that) they <u>would bring</u> 25,000 refugees to Canada by the end of the year.
can	We <u>can help</u> the government with the refugees.	They said (that) they <u>could help</u> the government with the refugees.
Past Modals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • could • should • might • would 	Do not change
	Must	Does not change

When talking about something that is always said, for example:



My mother always says that a stitch in time saves nine. Neither the reporting verb, nor the verb the speakers uses is changed.

LANGUAGE FOCUS: ACTIVITY 2

Instructions: Look at the reporting verbs in the table below, and follow the instructions in the table.

REPORTING VERBS		
The most common reporting verbs are:		
Present Tense Verbs	Put these reporting verbs in the past tense in the following sentences:	
SAY	They _____ they were not afraid.	
TELL someone	He _____ the parliament that France was at war.	
ASK someone to/ if/indirect question	They _____ if they could help to relocate the refugees.	
	Look at these direct quotations / spoken sentences called direct speech.	Complete the reported-speech sentences with past reporting verbs and spoken verbs.
SAY	"The unity in Paris is really strong."	They _____ the unity in Paris _____ really strong.
TELL someone	"Life is slowly returning to normal."	He _____ us that life _____ slowly returning to normal.
ASK someone to/ if/indirect question	"Are 25,000 refugees coming to Canada?"	He _____ if 25,000 refugees _____ coming to Canada.

<p>It is important to remember that SAY must be followed by what was said. You cannot use: say me/said him...</p> <p>On the other hand, You must use: TELL her/told me. You cannot use tell followed directly by information, or what was told. (The exception is: tell the truth or told a lie).</p>	
Introduction to indirect questions	
<p>Using ASK is more difficult. You might need more study and practice.</p> <p>When using ASK in reported speech, we can use: ask him to...</p> <p>Or we can make an <u>indirect question</u>:</p> <p>"When <u>is she</u> coming?"</p> <p>becomes</p> <p>He asked when <u>she was</u> coming.</p> <p>"<u>Is she</u> coming?"</p> <p>becomes</p> <p>He asked <u>if she</u> was coming.</p> <p>Notice that the subject and verb <u>is she</u> in the question becomes <u>she was</u> in the reported-speech question.</p>	
Often-used reporting verbs	
Present Tense Verb	Write the simple past tense of these reporting verbs.
EXPLAIN	
PROMISE	
REMIND	
WARN	
DECIDE	
WONDER IF	
APOLOGIZE FOR	
<u>Difficult</u> reporting verbs that require the subjunctive, infinitive or gerund*	Sample Sentences
ADVISE someone to be/doing something	He advises us to be early.
SUGGEST someone be/doing something	She suggests (that) we be early.
AGREE to be/do	We agree to be early
ENCOURAGE someone to be/do	They encourage us to be early.
INSIST someone/something be/do	He insists (that) we be early
RECOMMEND someone be/do/doing something	She recommends that they be early.

(See answer key)

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

*Using these reporting verbs will take more instruction and practice. Watch for these reporting verbs when you are reading, and make note of sample sentences.

CBC CALGARY TRANSCRIPTS OF WEEKLY NEWSCASTS

	WEEKLY NEWS STORIES	TIME
Introduction	Hi. This is Natasha Frakes. You're listening to Learning English with CBC for the week of November 23 rd .	0:00
Newscast 1 <i>Calgary charter Enerjet offers to fly Syrian refugees to Canada</i>	<p>Enerjet, a Calgary charter airline, says it can help the federal government to bring 25,000 Syrian refugees to Canada by the end of the year.</p> <p>With the layoffs in Alberta's oil and gas sector, Enerjet has more planes on hand, and is offering its services for free to Immigration Canada to fly some of the Syrian refugees from Europe to Canada.</p> <p>Darcy Morgan, the chief commercial officer of Enerjet, says "Canada has a long history in helping others in need and ... Calgarians, are a big part of that."</p>	0:09
Newscast 2 <i>Paris attacks have Albertans amazed at French resiliency</i>	<p>Two young Alberta women travelling in Paris say they are amazed at the resiliency of the French people. Jenica Hatfield and Anastasia French-Scott have no plans to cut their Paris trip short in the wake of the deadly attacks in that city.</p> <p>In an interview with CBC in Paris, Hatfield said Parisians are coming together. She added that it, "...may have been terrorism that brought all these people together, but the love and compassion and the unity here is really strong."</p> <p>Scott-French said the experience makes her thankful to live in Canada.</p> <p>"We are very, very lucky that we don't have any terrorism, really,... and that we're so safe," she said.</p>	0:50

<p>Newscast 3</p> <p><i>Justin Trudeau gets rock star welcome at G20</i></p>	<p>In his debut on the world stage at the G20 summit in Turkey on Sunday, Canada's new Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, delivered a firm message that Canada defines itself by its shared values, not its cultural differences.</p> <p>Trudeau told the G20 gathering Canada was "profoundly saddened" by events in Paris, and said Canada would be there for France in the weeks and months to come.</p> <p>He went on to reaffirm that the Paris attacks would not affect his pledge to accept 25,000 Syrian refugees by the end of 2015, nor would the attacks impact his promise to withdraw Canadian F-18 fighter jets from combat.</p> <p>Trudeau also found time to greet business executives who gave him a rock-star welcome asking for "selfies".</p> <p>Trudeau is now attending the APEC summit in the Philippines where he was greeted as a "hottie" on the front pages of Manila newspapers.</p>	<p>1:40</p>
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ANSWER KEY FOR NEWSCAST 1

CALGARY CHARTER ENERJET OFFERS TO FLY SYRIAN REFUGEES TO CANADA

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 2

Instructions: Match the words above with the correct definition below.

Term	Definition
compassion	pity for the sufferings or misfortunes of others
thankful	expressing gratitude and relief
cut short	to end abruptly
unity	being joined as a whole
amazed	to show or cause astonishment
resiliency	the ability to recover quickly from difficulties
wake of	happens after and often because of an event

LISTENING ACTIVITY 1

Instructions: Listen to Newscast 1 for overall comprehension. Use the following questions to help you:

1. What is Enerjet?
A Calgary-based charter airline
2. Who has Enerjet offered to help?
The Federal Government
3. What can Enerjet help to do?
Fly Syrian refugees to Canada
4. Why does Enerjet have airplanes available?
Layoffs in the oils and gas sector
5. What is Darcy Morgan's job?
Chief commercial officer of Enerjet

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2

Instructions: Listen to Newscast 1 again and fill in the blanks with the words that you hear.

Enerjet, a Calgary charter airline, says it can help the federal government to bring 25,000 Syrian refugees to Canada by the end of the year.

With the layoffs in Alberta's oil and gas sector, Enerjet has more planes on hand, and is offering its services for free to Immigration Canada to fly some of the Syrian refugees from Europe to Canada.

Darcy Morgan, the chief commercial officer of Enerjet, says "Canada has a long history in helping others in need and ... Calgarians, are a big part of that."

ANSWER KEY FOR NEWSCAST 2:

PARIS ATTACKS HAVE ALBERTANS AMAZED AT FRENCH RESILIENCY

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 1

Answers will vary.

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 3

Instructions: Without looking at the vocabulary words and phrases again, match the words and phrases you can remember with the definitions in the box below. If necessary, scroll down, or turn your paper over to avoid looking.

Term	Definition
compassion	pity for the sufferings or misfortunes of others
thankful	expressing gratitude and relief
cut short	to end abruptly
unity	being joined as a whole
amazed	to show or cause astonishment
resiliency	the ability to recover quickly from difficulties
wake of	happens after and often because of an event

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2

Instructions: Listen to Newscast 2 again. Put a checkmark in the box next to what is said by each person.

An example is done for you.

Jenica Hatfield	Anastasia French-Scott	
	✓	The experience makes her thankful to live in Canada
✓		Terrorism brought all these people together
✓	✓	They won't cut their trip short
✓		Parisians are coming together
	✓	We are very, very lucky to live in Canada
✓		The love and unity in Paris are really strong
	✓	We're so safe

LISTENING ACTIVITY 3

Instructions: Listen to Newscast 2 again and fill in the blanks with the word that you hear.

Two young Alberta women travelling in Paris say they are amazed at the resiliency of the French people. Jenica Hatfield and Anastasia French-Scott have no plans to cut their Paris trip short in the wake of the deadly attacks in that city.

In an interview to CBC at Place de la Republique, Hatfield said Parisians are coming together. She added that, "... there may have been terrorism that brought all these people together, but the love and compassion and the unity here is really strong."

Scott-French said the experience makes her thankful to live in Canada.

"We are very, very lucky that we don't have any terrorism, really,... and that we're so safe," she said.

ANSWER KEY FOR NEWSCAST 3:
JUSTIN TRUDEAU GETS ROCK STAR WELCOME AT G20

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 1

There are also two slang terms in the newscast:

Selfie and hottie.

How would you define **selfie**? **photograph that you take of yourself, usually with a smartphone or webcam and shared on social media**

A **hottie** is a physically attractive person.

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 3

Instructions: Match the words from the left of the table above with their synonyms below.

WORD/EXPRESSION	SYNONYMS
time to come	over the next days, weeks, etc./hereafter
withdraw	remove/leave
impact	effect/ influence
to be there for	being responsive/helpful to
pledge	promise/vow
executives	managers/directors
debut	introduction/ first appearance
summit	conference/meeting
reaffirm	repeat/ confirm
profoundly	very much/deeply

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2

Instructions: Listen to Newscast 3 again and respond to the questions below.

1. Where was the G20 summit held?
Turkey
2. What day did Trudeau deliver his message?
Sunday
3. How did Trudeau say Canadians define themselves?
Shared values
4. Will the Paris attacks affect the plans to bring Syrian refugees to Canada?
No
5. What else will the Paris attacks not affect?
Plan to withdraw CF-18s
6. Who else did Trudeau greet at the summit?
Business executives
7. What did the business executives ask Trudeau for?
Selfies
8. Where is the APEC summit being held?
Philippines
9. How did the Manila papers describe Trudeau?
A hottie

LANGUAGE FOCUS

LANGUAGE FOCUS: ACTIVITY 2

Instructions: Look at the reporting verbs in the table below, and follow the instructions in the table.

REPORTING VERBS		
The most common reporting verbs are:		
Present Tense Verb	Put these reporting verbs in the past tense in the following sentences:	
SAY	They <u>said</u> they were not afraid.	
TELL someone	He <u>told</u> the parliament that France was at war.	
ASK someone to/ if/indirect question	They <u>asked</u> if they could help to relocate the refugees.	
	Look at these direct quotations / spoken sentences called direct speech.	Complete the reported-speech sentences with past reporting verbs and spoken verbs.
SAY	"The unity in Paris is really strong."	They <u>said</u> the unity in Paris <u>was</u> really strong
TELL someone	"Life is slowly returning to normal."	He <u>told</u> us that life <u>was</u> slowly returning to normal.
ASK someone to/ if/indirect question	"Are 25,000 refugees coming to Canada?"	He <u>asked</u> if 25,000 refugees <u>were</u> coming to Canada.
Often-used reporting verbs		
Present Tense Verb	Write the simple past tense of these reporting verbs.	
EXPLAIN	<u>explained</u>	
PROMISE	<u>promised</u>	
REMIND	<u>reminded</u>	
WARN	<u>warned</u>	
DECIDE	<u>decided</u>	
WONDER IF	<u>wondered if</u>	
APOLOGIZE FOR	<u>apologized for</u>	